

Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

Upcoming 2020 News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Jan	Mar 16	Mar 16
Feb	Mar 27	Mar 31
Mar	Apr 17	Apr 21
Apr	May 22	May 27
May	Jun 19	Jun 23
Jun	Jul 17	Jul 21
Jul	Aug 21	Aug 25
Aug	Sep 18	Sep 22
Sep	Oct 20	Oct 20
Oct	Nov 20	Nov 24
Nov	Dec 18	Dec 22
Dec	Jan 26	Jan 26

Iowa Nonfarm Employment Seasonally Adjusted

Year	Month	Iowa Statewide Employment	Manufacturing Employment
2019	Aug	1,585,100	226,100
	Sep	1,584,900	225,600
	Oct	1,587,900	226,600
	Nov	1,586,000	226,500
	Dec	1,585,400	225,300
2020	Jan	1,585,000	223,900
	Feb	1,581,300	223,600
	Mar	1,577,800	223,200

Iowa Workforce Development

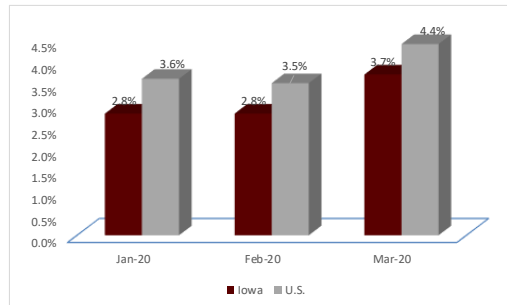
Information Prepared by the
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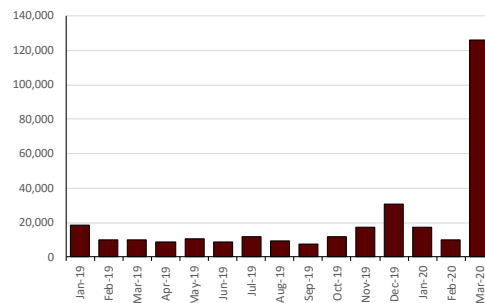
Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief
Iowa Workforce Development

Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates - 2020



- Iowa's unemployment rate jumped to 3.7 percent in March. The state's jobless rate was 2.7 percent one year ago.
- The state's total unemployment level rose to 63,500 in March from 49,300 in February.
- The U.S. unemployment rate increased to 4.4 percent in March.

Iowa Initial Claims by Month



Source: ETA-5159

- UI initial claims rose sharply from 9,700 in February to 126,000 in March due to Coronavirus-related layoffs. Industries with the most initial claims were: accommodations and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, and retail trade. ([click for current data](#))
- Production workers in durable goods factories earned \$872.98 per week. Overall, schedules are down over three hours versus last March as overtime hours have been trimmed.

- Total nonfarm employment decreased by 3,500 jobs in March and is now down 7,100 jobs versus last year.
- Leisure and hospitality shed 1,600 jobs in March to lead all sectors. All of the loss was in accommodations and food services and partially the result of efforts to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.
- Durable goods manufacturing shed jobs in March (-800). This was the fourth loss in the last five months.
- Health care and social assistance dropped 1,100 jobs. This was mainly from firms involved in social services and clinics.
- Financial activities added jobs for the third consecutive month and is now up 1,500 jobs in 2020. Most of the gain stems from insurance related activities.
- Over the past twelve months, Iowa has shed 7,100 jobs. Durable goods factories have pared 3,400 jobs and transportation has shed 2,400 jobs. The largest gain is in other services (+1,700).
- U.S. total nonfarm employment declined by 701,000 jobs in March as efforts to stop the spread of the Coronavirus began. Eating and drinking establishments alone lost 417,000 jobs. Health care and social assistance decreased by 61,000 jobs.

Iowa Total Nonfarm Employment 2019 vs. 2020

